

**Before the
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20554**

In the Matter of)	
)	
Amendment of Part 97 of the Commission's)	
Amateur Radio Service Rules to Eliminate)	RM - 10786
Morse Code Proficiency Testing Requirements)	
For All Classes of Amateur Licenses)	
)	
To: The Commission)	

Comments of James Earl Holdeman – KG4YQP

- I personally feel the required Morse Code Testing for any level of amateur radio should be eliminated and should continue only in a volunteer status for those who are enthusiasts about Morse code.
- I know several friends who really wanted to advance in amateur radio and were unable, due to the fact they just could not grasp the code. I felt this to be very difficult because I believe this was above their comprehension. However they would have been a great benefit to the amateur radio community because they did have a full understanding, technical knowledge and drive to be a benefit to any amateur radio emergency field.
- The maintenance of Morse proficiency tests as a requirement for any amateur radio license is no longer in accord with the purpose of the amateur radio service have no legitimate regulatory purpose.
- I support the petition RM-10786 to eliminate Morse code proficiency testing requirements for all classes of amateur licenses. Myself, I will continue to learn Morse code for personnel reward.

- I believe your prompt decision in support of this petition will be in the best interest of the future of the amateur radio service.
- Since the Commission is no longer bound by an unwaivable requirement in the ITU Radio Regulations it can, and should, act promptly to remove an unnecessary, restrictive requirement.
- Other administrations have already eliminated Morse test requirements and many more are expected to follow suit rapidly.
- It is not in the public interest for the Commission to impose more onerous and unnecessary burdens on those seeking a Commission-issued amateur radio license than would be faced by equally qualified individuals in other countries, as this will unnecessarily limit the pool of operators available for emergency communications.
- In summary, petition RM-10786 would be beneficial to not only the growth of amateur radio but to the public emergency communications services, and I believe the Commission should enact this change to its rules in the most expeditious manner possible.

Respectfully submitted,

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